Docket No.: M4065.0159/P159-B (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Li Li, et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: August 28, 2001

For: METHOD OF CONTROLLING

STRIATION AND CD LOSS IN CONTACT

OXIDE ETCH

Group Art Unit: 2815 10-23-01

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Examiner: P. Brock

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Dear Madame/Sir:

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Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

In the Specification:

Page 1, before "Field of the Invention," please insert -- This application is a continuation of the Application Serial No. 09/292,393, filed on April 15, 1999, which is hereby incorporated by reference.--

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-91.

Please add the following new claims:

1331724 v1; SJKC01!.DOC 1331724 v1; SJKC01!.DOC